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December 1, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO FUTURE DATA USE AGREEMENTS WITH
VARIOUS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS AND UNIVERSITIES
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request delegated authority to execute future data use agreements (DUAs) with various public and private institutions and universities.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Interim Director of the Department of Public Health (DPH), or her designee, to execute future DUAs with various public and private institutions and universities, which may include provisions for indemnification, effective upon date of execution through the end of the applicable project period, subject to review and approval by Public Health Information Services (PHIS), Chief Executive Office (CEO) Risk Management, as needed, and County Counsel, and notification to your Board and the CEO.
2. Delegate authority to the Interim Director of DPH, or her designee, to execute amendments that are consistent with the requirements of the DUAs accepted under Recommendation 1 that extend the term and/or reflect modifications to the DUAs, subject to review and approval by PHIS, CEO Risk Management, as needed, and County Counsel.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of Recommendation 1 will allow DPH to expedite the execution of DUAs, which are often required to obtain access to personal and health information that is needed to conduct official government business, epidemiologic analysis, program evaluation and planning, and policy development, and to respond to public health threats and emergencies. With your Board's approval of the recommended action, DPH will exercise delegated authority to execute future DUAs with public and private institutions and universities, including those that may include provisions for mutual indemnification, in order to collaborate on specific public health objectives.

In the past, with County Counsel review and approval, as well as your Board's approval of those that include an indemnification clause, DPH has executed numerous DUAs. Examples include the following:

- A DUA with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for access to CDPH's Vital Records Business Intelligence System for the purpose of permitting the secure exchange of Statewide and County-Specific birth and death data indices and files compiled by the State Registrar.
- A DUA with CDPH that provides DPH access to its HIV/AIDS Case Reporting System which is a confidential, central registry of demographic and clinical information on all reported HIV infections and AIDS diagnoses in California. Access to the HIV/AIDS Case Reporting System facilitates local care, prevention, and surveillance activities, including local application to Federal Ryan White Part A funds and locally tailored prevention services.
- A DUA with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Carolina Population Center at a total maximum obligation estimated not to exceed \$850, for a period of three years effective June 30, 2015, to produce a health impact assessment report which will outline the potential change in short- and long-term health outcomes due to truancy prevention programs, such as those led by the District Attorney and the City Attorney.
- DUAs with various hospitals facilitating the development of a real-time surveillance program in the event of a bioterrorism event by authorizing the review of emergency department logs for the early recognition of unusual clusters of acute illness in the general population.

The data provided by various institutions and universities to DPH under DUAs are versatile and invaluable tools for research, public health monitoring, disease surveillance, and emergency preparedness and response. The recommended action will streamline processes and ensure more expedient execution of DUAs, supporting DPH's mission to protect health, prevent disease, and promote health and well-being.

Recommendation 2 will allow DPH to execute amendments that are consistent with the requirements of the DUAs to extend the term and reflect modifications to the terms and conditions.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support Goal 1, Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability, of the County's Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

For future DUAs that include cost, DPH will identify the amount in the delegated authority Board notification.

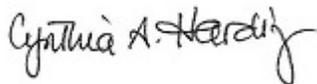
FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

DPH implements administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the privacy, confidentiality, security, integrity, and availability of confidential, protected health information. All confidential, protected health information is stored on encrypted systems and access to all systems requires authorized users to authenticate their identity with a unique username and password.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions will allow DPH to enter into DUAs with various public and private institutions and universities that support the provision of public health services to Los Angeles County residents.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia A. Harding, M.P.H.
Interim Director

CAH:jc
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c: Chief Executive Officer
Interim County Counsel
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors